

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-018-256

New Computational Linguistics Minor

Academic Programs Committee

Date: 1/21/2026

**Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded**

Date: 4/8/2026

**Academic Senate
First Reading**

Date: 4/15/2026

Background:

The interdisciplinary Computational Linguistics minor is designed to bridge the gap between the study of applied linguistics and the power of computational analysis, offering an enriching pathway for students to explore a dynamic and impactful field. By combining the theoretical depth of linguistics with the technical rigor of computer science, this minor prepares students for the rapidly evolving landscape of language technology. Students will gain the ability to analyze and think critically about language while also learning to build and evaluate systems that interact with it. This program is particularly suited for students who are curious about how language works and how it can be modeled, understood, and generated by machines. It creates opportunities for careers in areas such as natural language processing, artificial intelligence, and data science, while also laying a strong foundation for graduate study in computational linguistics, cognitive science, applied linguistics, and digital humanities.

Resources Consulted:

Deans and Associate Deans, all colleges: We did not receive any comments except from the Dean of CLASS (Camille Johnson), who enthusiastically supported this new Minor.

Amar Raheja, Chair of the Computer Science Department

Kent Dickson, Chair of English and Modern Languages Department

Discussion and Recommendation:

Deans of all colleges, and the chairs of the Computer Science and English and Modern Languages Departments were consulted. In consultation, the AP committee did not receive any objections. The Department chairs presented an overview of the program to the AP committee.

This minor is designed to bridge the gap between the study of applied linguistics and the power of computational analysis. Computational linguistics inherently sits at the intersection of language and technology, as it requires knowledge from both linguistics (e.g., syntax, phonology, corpus analysis, applied pragmatics, conversational analysis, and second language acquisition) and computer science (e.g. programming, algorithms, machine learning). Students will explore these advanced topics in both computer science and linguistics. Students will gain the ability to analyze and think critically about language while also learning to build and evaluate systems that interact with it. This minor can be an intriguing for students from different majors. Specifically, many students in the Department of English and Modern Languages are interested in digital tools and data analysis, while Computer Science students often seek applications of their skills in human-centered domains. A minor in computational linguistics offers a bridge for students from both areas

to collaborate and innovate with the proper scaffolded training, building the foundational knowledge and skill set in both areas. This aligns with CPP's broader institutional goals of promoting interdisciplinary learning, digital literacy, and career readiness.

The minor is structured properly building on many courses that the two departments already offer frequently.

Recommendations

The Academic Programs Committee recommends approval of this new minor.